

To:  
Ticketing Block Exemption Team  
Competition, Consumer and Markets Group  
Competition and Markets Authority  
7th Floor  
Victoria House  
37 Southampton Row  
London WC1B 4AD

SEStran (South East Scotland Transport Partnership comprising the following eight Councils; City of Edinburgh, Clackmannanshire, East Lothian, Falkirk, Fife, Midlothian, Scottish Borders and West Lothian) is one of the seven Scottish statutory strategic transport planning authorities.

The three largest Scottish bus operators (First, Stagecoach and Lothian Buses) have a significant presence in the region – and we are also served by numerous smaller operators - and a number of significant corridors (in particular those leading into the City of Edinburgh) are served by two or more operators.

To enable the public to benefit from integrated ticketing, the operators in partnership with SEStran, have established a joint operator owned 'One ticket' company that offers a range of zonal / corridor tickets that are valid on all the operators' services (including rail) in the relevant area and allow bus-bus and bus-rail transfers at a reduced cost. The popularity of these tickets is growing but the scheme would be at risk should the ticketing schemes block exemption arrangement not be renewed.

SEStran would therefore strongly support the continuation of the exemption.

We would of course be happy to discuss the issue in more detail as relevant

Kind regards

**Trond Haugen**  
Advisor to SEStran

Director: Lindean Partnership Ltd  
Transportation Consultancy